



## New Braunfels Independent School District

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January 29, 2009

The Honorable Lamar Smith  
United States House of Representatives  
2409 Rayburn House Office building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Smith:

On behalf of New Braunfels Independent School District (New Braunfels ISD), I am writing to request your support for the Texas Mathworks program in the FY10 Labor, Health and Human Services and Education Appropriations bill. New Braunfels ISD has formed a partnership with the Texas State University System (TSUS) and requests \$361,292 for Texas Mathworks - New Braunfels ISD.

Texas Mathworks is a center for mathematics education formed by the Texas State University System (TSUS) to develop model programs and self-sustaining learning communities that engage Texas K-12 students in doing mathematics at a high level. The program has won acclaim from around the state and nation for its effectiveness. Mathworks students continue to receive top awards in national and worldwide math competition. New Braunfels ISD's students and teachers would greatly benefit from this program.

Providing students from all backgrounds with the mathematics foundation and preparation they need to make contributions in the areas of math, science and technology is a critical state and national challenge. Texas Mathworks proves to be an effective model for engaging and retaining students' interest in math and science, enabling teachers to effectively teach it at the highest levels.

TSUS has developed Texas Mathworks, an innovative program that seeks to develop tomorrow's mathematicians and scientists while at the same time producing teachers to teach math and science to the next generation of students. The program especially targets women and students from underserved backgrounds who traditionally have not had as many opportunities in math and science. Mathworks sets a standard of excellence for what young students can achieve in mathematics, while engaging students in the excitement of mathematical exploration and discovery.

FY10 funding would enable Mathworks-New Braunfels ISD to serve approximately 600 students in our schools, while also serving over 30 teachers during the summer and school year. There is no question that Texas Mathworks would benefit the students and teachers at New Braunfels ISD and I encourage you to submit a request of \$361,262 to the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Humans Services and Education to enable our school district to benefit from this program.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this request. Please do not hesitate to contact me at (830) 643-5700 with questions or comments. Again, thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael T. Smith". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Michael T. Smith  
Superintendent